

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS USUN 3952

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: UN, PFOR, SF, IN

SUBJ: APARTHEID COMMITTEE STATEMENT ON DAVIS CUP

FOLLOWING STATEMENT ISSUED OCTOBER 7 BY APARTHEID COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN OGBU.

QUOTE: I HAVE LEARNT WITH GREAT SATISFACTION THAT THE ALL-INDIA LAWN TENNIS FEDERATION HAS DECIDED NOT TO PLAY SOUTH AFRICA IN THE FINAL ROUND OF THE DAVIS CUP TENNIS COMPETITION. THIS COMMENDABLE DECISION IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OLYMPIC PRINCIPLE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION IN SPORT AND THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY CALLING FOR A BOYCOTT OF RACIALLY-SELECTED SOUTH AFRICAN SPORTS TEAMS.

AT THE SAME TIME, I HAVE NOTED THAT BASIL REAY, THE BRITISH SECRETARY OF THE DAVIS CUP NATIONS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, IS REPORTED TO HAVE PRESSED THE ALL-INDIA LAWN TENNIS FEDERATION AND THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TO REVERSE THEIR DECISION. WALTER E. ELCOCK, THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT OF THE

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INTERNATIONAL LAWN TENNIS FEDERATION, IS REPORTED TO HAVE

WARNED THAT INDIA FACED POSSIBLE CENSURE OR DISCIPLINARY ACTION FOR REFUSING TO PLAY WITH APARTHEID.

I HOPE THAT THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AS WELL AS OTHER MEMBERS OF THE DAVIS CUP NATIONS, WILL TAKE URGENT STEPS TO DRAW THE ATTENTION OF THEIR LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATIONS TO THE RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND PERSUADE THEM TO EXCLUDE SOUTH AFRICAN TEAMS FROM THE DAVIS CUP TENNIS COMPETITION SO LONG AS RACIAL SEGREGATION AND DISCRIMINATION ARE PRACTISED IN TENNIS CLUBS IN SOUTH AFRICA. UNQUOTE

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